Legislation to replace Indian Forest Act, 1927

6159. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
SHRI J. S. RAJU:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated country-wise consultations to finalise the draft of a legislatioin to replace the Indian Forest Act, 1927;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be finalised;

(c) whether the view of the State Governments would be taken into consideration before finalisation of the legislation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether several non-Governmental organisations have opposed the proposed Forest Bill;

(f) if so, the apprehensioins raised by these non-Governmental organisatioins; and

(g) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (g) A draft of a legislation to replace the Indian Forest Act, 1927 has been circulated to the state Governments and Union Territory Administrations for their views. Their views would be taken into consideration in the finalisatioin of the draft. Consultations have also been initiated with non-governmental organisatioins whose views would also be taken into consideration. Some non-governmental organisations have differed with some of the provisions and have emphasized that there must be adequate provision to ensure the participation of local people, particularly tribals, in forestry. The Central government is working in close Co-operation with state governments and in a very transparent manner with MBBS in the finalisation of the draft Bill.

दि ग्रेट हिमालयन नेशनल पार्क के कार्यालय की स्थापना

6160. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस आशय के सुझाव प्राप्त हुए हैं कि दि ग्रेट हिमालयन नेशनल पार्क के निदेशक का कार्यालय हिमाचल प्रदेश के कुल्लू जिले में प्रस्तावित रोला स्थल की बजाए सैंज या लारजी मे स्थापित किया जाना चाहिए जो कि प्रशासनिक दृष्टि से आवश्यक है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सुझाव पर सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है तथा क्या यह कार्यालय उपर्युक्त स्थान पर स्थानांतरित किया जाने वाला है; यदि हां, तो कब तक; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ):) (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) राज्य वन विभाग के अनुसार, दि ग्रेट हिमालयन नेशनल पार्क का मुख्यालय सैन्ज या लारजी मे स्थानांतरित करना व्यवहार्य नहीं होगा क्योंकि पार्क की सभी घाटियों का पर्यवेक्षण शम्सी से अधिक कारगर ढंग से किया जा सकता है जो राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग पर स्थित है और जिला मुख्यालय के निकट है। इसके अतिरिक्त, शम्सी में उपलब्ध संचार एवं अन्य सुविधाएं सैन्ज में उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। इसके अलावा, शम्सी में पहले ही अनेक अवसंरचनात्मक सुविधाओं का विकास किया जा चुका है और इसलिए मुख्यालय को शम्सी से सैन्ज स्थानांतरित करना जनहित में नहीं होगा।

Blue Print for Green-India

6161. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the Blue Print for Green-India 2047, released on the occasion of the Earth Day on the study of Tata Energy Research Institute; and

(b) what are the details of the steps being taken to develop a strategy for its re-generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND

FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The informatioin is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Land clarified as Zudpi Jungle in Maharashtra

6162. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of acres of Revenue land is classified as "Zudpi Jungle" in Maharashtra, particularly in the Vidarbha Region;

(b) if so, what is the exact nature of the problem and how it has been sorted out as claimed by the Minister recently; and

(c) whether orders have been issued to implement the solution of this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The issues relating to areas recorded as "Zudpi Jungle" in revenue records of Maharashtra were discussed in detail with the Government of Maharashtra and, thereafter, detailed instructions were issued to the State Government in February, 1992 stating inter-alia that land shown as Zudpi Jungle in revenue records will continue to be treated as forest land under Forest (Conservatioin) Act, 1980 and in the five districts of Vidarbha *viz.* Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Nagpur, Wardha and Bhandara, such land would be accepted for compensatory afforestation without insisting on Chief Secretary's Certificate regarding non-availability of non-forest land. However, compensatory afforestation in such cases would have to be done over double the area as per existing guidelines of Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Establishment of Museum of Natural History in Andhra Pradesh

6163. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to finance the establishment of a Museum of Natural History in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that no museums of Natural History are there in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to establish such a Museum in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The Govt. have decided to set up Regional Museums of Natural History at Mysore, Bhopal and Bhubaneswar. The outreach activities of the National and Regional Museums are expected to cover the entire country.

World Bank Assistance for Afforestation Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

6164. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has offered any assistance for afforestation schemes in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of such schemes to be taken up in 1995-96; and

(c) whether this aid is in form of loans or grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) A forestry project has been started in Andhra Pradesh in 1994-95 with financial assistance from the World bank. An agreement for a credit of US $ 77.4 million for this project was signed with the World Bank in 1994. The total cost of the project is Rs. 354 crores and it